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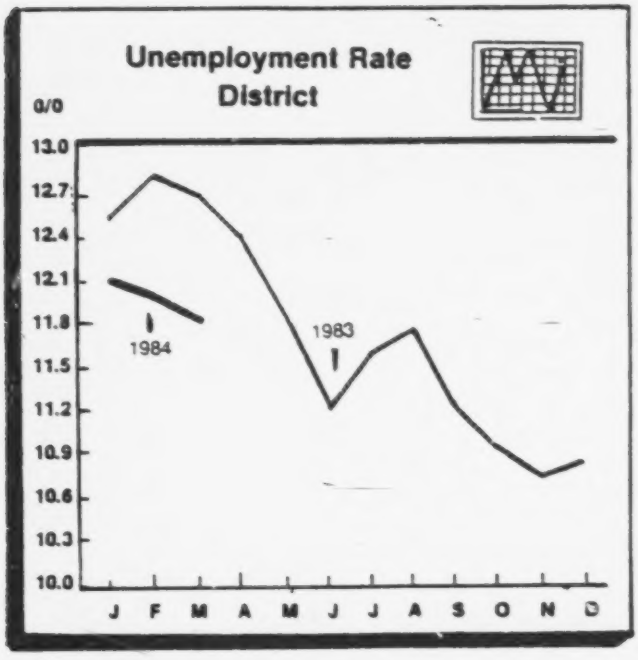
METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

A LABOR MARKET INFORMATION PUBLICATION OF THE PROGRAM PLANNING,RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS STAFF
Prepared by the Division of Labor Market Information, Research and Analysis

DATA FOR MARCH 1984 MAY 11, 1984

UNEMPLOYMENT DOWN SLIGHTLY OVER THE MONTH



The preliminary unemployment rate fell for the second consecutive month in the District of Columbia. Since the unemployment rate reached 12.1 percent in January 1984 it has fallen 0.3 percentage point to the current March 1984 unemployment rate of 11.8 percent. Unemployment among District residents dropped by 700 between February and March 1984 and 1,500 since January 1984. Employment among District residents fell by 500 over the month. Since January 1984, the number of employed District resident has fallen by 2,900. Historically employment has not dropped this sharply. Despite the drop in the unemployment rate over the month, the drop in employment may indicate future problems for District labor force participants.

Compared to year ago estimates (March 1983 to March 1984) the employment situation of District residents has improved. Over the past year, the jobless rate in the District dropped from 12.7 percent to 11.8 percent. Joblessness among City residents has shown considerable improvement, falling 8.5 percent over the year. Employment though, failed to make any yearly gains, falling from 281,000 in March 1983 to 279,800 in March 1984. An improved labor market is typically associated with rising employment. This has not been the case in the District of Columbia where larger relative declines in unemployment have out weighed the declines in employment resulting in the over the year improvements in the District's jobless rate.

As indicated by preliminary data the employment situation of Area and Suburban residents continues to show

Government of the District of Columbia
Marion S. Barry, Jr.
Mayor

Department of Employment Services
MATTHEW F. SHANNON
Director

DIVISION OF LABOR MARKET INFORMATION,
RESEARCH & ANALYSIS

LABOR FORCE DATA BY PLACE OF RESIDENCE a/
March 1984

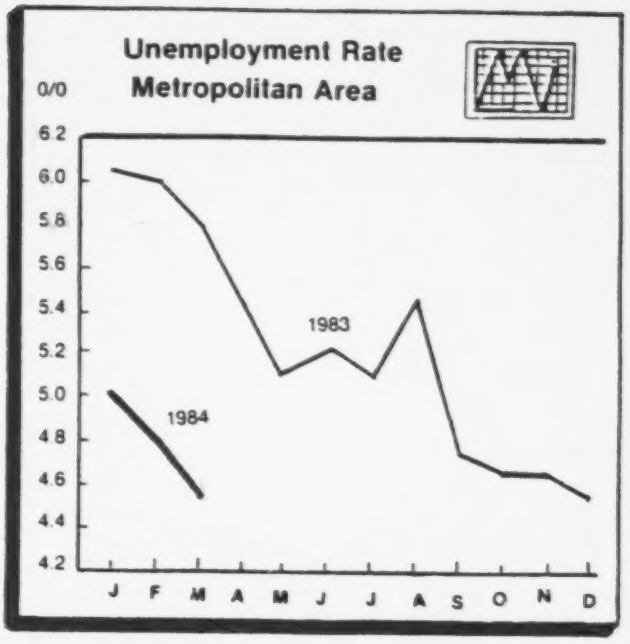
	March b/ 1984	February c/ 1984	March 1983	February 1983	Net Change From February 1984	Net Change From March 1983
WASHINGTON, D.C.						
Civilian Labor Force	317,300	318,500	322,000	317,300	-1,200	-4,700
Total Employment	279,800	280,300	281,000	276,900	-500	-1,200
Total Unemployment	37,500	38,200	41,000	40,500	-700	-3,500
Unemployment Rate d/	11.8	12.0	12.7	12.8	xxx	xxx
WASHINGTON, D.C. SMSA						
Civilian Labor Force	1,795,400	1,784,100	1,750,800	1,725,800	11,300	44,600
Total Employment	1,715,000	1,698,400	1,650,300	1,621,400	16,600	64,700
Total Unemployment	80,400	85,700	100,400	104,500	-5,300	-20,000
Unemployment Rate d/	4.5	4.8	5.7	6.0	xxx	xxx
SUBURBAN RING						
Civilian Labor Force	1,478,100	1,465,700	1,428,800	1,408,500	12,400	49,300
Total Employment	1,435,100	1,418,100	1,369,300	1,344,500	17,000	65,800
Total Unemployment	43,000	47,600	59,400	64,000	-4,600	-16,500
Unemployment Rate d/	2.9	3.2	4.2	4.5	xxx	xxx

a/ Detail may not add to totals due to independent rounding
b/ Current Month Reflects Preliminary Data
c/ Previous Month Revised Data
d/ Not seasonally adjusted

Estimated Labor Force and Employment for the Washington Metropolitan Area includes the District of Columbia; the Virginia cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas and Manassas Park; Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William and Loudoun Counties in Virginia; Montgomery, Prince Georges and Charles Counties in Maryland.

strong gains. Between February and March 1984 employment in the Area increased a strong 1.0 percent while Suburban resident employment rose a healthy 1.2 percent. In March 1984 employment of Area and Suburban residents stood at 1,715,000 and 1,435,100 respectively, while employment was rising for Area and Suburban residents; those who were unemployed declined to 80,400 and 43,000 respectively in March. As a result of the gain in employment and drop in unemployment, the unemployment rate in the Area dropped from 4.8 percent in February 1984 to 4.5 percent in March 1984. Similar improvements were more evident in the suburbs where the unemployment rate declined from 3.2 percent in February 1984 to 2.9 percent in March 1984. Under most definitions this unemployment rate would be considered full employment.

The employment situation in the Washington Metropolitan Area has improved significantly, compared to year ago estimates (March 1983 to March 1984). The jobless rate in the Area continues to make significant gains over the year. Since March 1983, the jobless rate in the Area dropped from 5.7 percent to 4.5 percent. The jobless rate among Suburban residents has shown similar improvement declining 1.3 percentage points over the year to 2.9 percent. These sharp declines in the Area and Suburban jobless rates are the result of rising employment and falling joblessness. During the past twelve months the number of employed Area residents rose from 1,650,300 to 1,715,000. Over this same period Suburban resident employment has increased from 1,369,300 to 1,435,100. Employment increased 3.9 and 4.8 percent respectively in the Area and Suburbs. Joblessness among these residents declined by 19.9 percent and 27.6 percent respectively. These gains in employment and declines in joblessness resulted in the reported declines in the jobless rates for Area and Suburban residents.



Industry Growth in the District of Columbia

The number of jobs in the District of Columbia increased 0.4 percent over the month. Between February and March 1984 the number of District jobs rose by 2,400. This net increase was split 50/50 between the public and private sectors. Except for the Services industry, which gained 600 jobs, increases were marginal in those private sector industries which experienced gains. There was no net change in the Manufacturing and Mining industries. A moderate gain in Retail Trade (500) was partially offset by the impact of a strike in the Wholesale Trade sector (-200). The strike involved truck drivers employed by wholesale liquor distributors.

Most of the net loss in public sector jobs between January and February of this year (-1,300) was regained during the February-March period of this year (1,200).

Over the Year Change in the District

Over the year (March 1984 compared to March 1983), the number of District jobs

WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY AND PLACE OF WORK
(in thousands)

INDUSTRY	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA			METROPOLITAN AREA		
	March a/ 1984	February b/ 1984	March 1983	March a/ 1984	February b/ 1984	March 1983
TOTAL	591.9	589.5	588.4	1,665.6	1,652.5	1,610.5
Total Private Sector	332.5	331.3	332.9	1,131.9	1,122.7	1,080.2
Manufacturing	14.5	14.5	14.4	68.8	68.2	62.8
Food & Kindred Products	0.8	0.8	0.8	4.4	4.3	4.5
Printing & Publishing	11.7	11.7	11.5	26.2	26.4	24.9
All Other Manufacturing	2.0	2.0	2.1	38.2	37.5	33.4
Mining	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.0	1.0	1.0
Construction	10.2	10.1	9.4	78.8	77.3	67.2
Transportation, Communication Public Utilities	24.7	24.6	25.5	76.9	77.2	74.0
Interstate Railroads	3.1	3.1	3.0	4.0	4.0	3.8
Other Transportation	4.9	4.8	4.6	32.2	32.4	29.6
Communication & Public Utilities	16.7	16.7	17.9	40.7	40.8	40.6
Trade	56.9	56.6	56.9	314.7	312.1	303.0
Wholesale	9.1 c/	9.3	9.6	61.6 c/	61.3	58.3
Retail	47.8	47.3	47.3	253.1	250.8	244.7
General Merchandise	5.9	5.9	5.7	32.7	32.7	32.2
Food	NA	NA	NA	33.9	33.5	32.7
Automotive	NA	NA	NA	28.6	28.3	27.1
Apparel & Accessories	NA	NA	NA	18.2	18.2	18.9
Eating & Drinking	21.8	21.4	21.3	81.5	80.2	77.9
Other Retail Trade	20.1	20.0	20.3	58.2	57.9	55.9
Finance, Insurance, & Real Estate	33.5	33.4	33.7	93.7	93.3	92.7
Banking	7.2	7.2	7.2	19.6	19.4	19.4
All Other	26.3	26.2	26.5	74.1	73.9	73.3
Services	192.6	192.0	192.9	498.0	493.6	479.5
Hotels & Lodging Places	11.2	11.1	10.4	24.1	23.5	22.3
Personal Services	3.7	3.6	4.0	19.9	19.3	19.5
Business Services	35.3	35.2	34.7	NA	NA	NA
Health Services	29.6	29.5	29.6	NA	NA	NA
Legal Services	18.6	18.5	18.2	NA	NA	NA
Educational Services	33.0	33.0	34.5	NA	NA	NA
Membership Organizations	28.5	28.5	28.7	NA	NA	NA
All Other Services	32.7	32.6	32.8	454.0	450.8	437.7
Government	259.4	258.2	255.5	533.7	529.8	530.3
Federal Government	210.6	209.7	207.1	351.1	350.0	346.7
State & Local Government	NA	NA	NA	182.6	179.8	183.6
D.C. Government	43.6	43.3	43.3	NA	NA	NA
Local Government	5.2	5.2	5.1	NA	NA	NA

a/Preliminary b/ Revised c/ Strike

Data includes all full-and part-time employees who worked during or received pay for any part of the pay period which includes the 12th of the month. Proprietors, self-employed, unpaid family workers, and private household workers are excluded.

SOURCE: Prepared by the Department of Employment Services, Division of Labor Market Information, Research and Analysis in cooperation with the Virginia Employment Commission, Maryland Department of Human Resources, and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

increased by 3,500--reflecting a public sector gain of 3,900 jobs and a private sector loss of 400 jobs. Marginal to moderate declines in Services (-300); Finance, Insurance, and Real Estate (-200); and Transportation, Communications, and Public Utilities (-800) were partially offset by increases in Manufacturing (100) and Construction (800). The decline in TCPU was due to the divestiture of AT&T. A small gain in Retail Trade (500) was offset by a loss in Wholesale Trade (-500). The decline in Wholesale Trade was partially the result of the strike by drivers for liquor wholesalers. There was no net change in Mining over the year.

In the public sector, Federal Government employment rose by 3,500; District Government jobs rose by 300; and the number of Local Government jobs increased by 100 over the year.

Industrial Growth in the Metropolitan Area

The number of jobs in the Metropolitan Area rose by 13,100 between February and March 1984--9,200 in the private sector and 3,900 in the public sector. The largest private sector increases occurred in Services (4,400); Wholesale and Retail Trade (2,600); and Construction (1,500). Other gains were marginal to moderate. Only Transportation, Communications and Public Utilities experienced a net decline (-300) over the month.

Public sector gains reflected increases in State and Local Government jobs (2,800) and Federal Govervent jobs (1,100). Gains in State and Local Government reflect seasonal and other hiring in state and local educational systems in suburban jurisdictions.

Over the Year Changes in the Area

The number of jobs in the Metropolitan Area rose by 55,100 over the year (March 1984 compared to March 1983). Ninety-four percent (51,700) of the (new) jobs were in the private sector. The net increase in private sector jobs was limited to the suburbs. Substantial increases occurred in Services (18,500 jobs); Wholesale and Retail Trade (11,700 jobs); and Construction (11,600 jobs). Ninety-three percent of Construction jobs growth was in the Suburbs, with Services and Wholesale/Retail jobs growth also concentrated in the suburbs.

Area public sector growth, on the other hand, was limited to the District (3,900 jobs), as suburban public sector jobs declined slightly (-500) over the year. Eighty percent of federal job growth occurred in the District. In State and Local Government, a slight increase in the District (300) was more than offset by a decline in suburban jurisdictions (-400).

Characterists of the District's Unemployed - 1983

Annually detailed characteristics of the unemployed by race, sex and age are available based on the Monthly Current Population Survey (CPS) conducted by the Census Bureau. The following summarizes the highlights for 1983. Data are annual averages.

During 1983 the level of unemployment in the District averaged 38,000 invidivuals. This represented 11.7 percent of the City's resident labor force (all those citizens who activity sought work or were working).

Reflecting in 1983 a very depressed economy and especially the labor market for City residents, the average duration of unemployment for residents was 19.9 weeks - nearly 5 months. Forty-one percent of the unemplyed were out of work for 15 or more weeks. The majority (55 percent) were unemployed because they had involuntarily lost their previous job; including 1,800 people on a formal layoff. Only 1,700 of the 38,000 unemployed voluntarily left their job, (a true reflection of the depressed nature of the labor market).

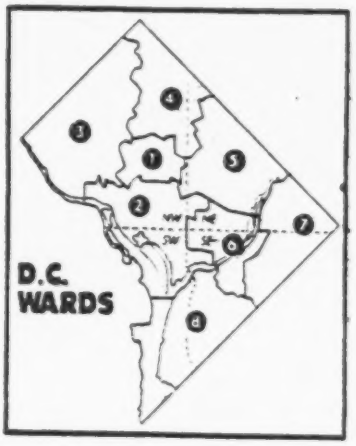
During 1983 the City's labor force grew by 13,000 individuals, probably as a response to the general improvements in the national and regional economies. Four of every 10 unemployed residents were either new entrants or re-entrants to the labor force. This was a relatively high proportion considering the unfavorble conditions existing in the labor market.

Black District residents constituted the vast majority of the unemployed (90 percent). At 15.8 percent, the black unemployment rate rested approximately 4 full percentage points above the overall City average. The majority (58 percent) of the unemployed were in the prime working ages of 20 to 34. Black teenagers (16-19) accounted for only 16 percent of the 38,000 unemployed, but more than five of every ten black youths in the labor force experienced unemployment. The black youth unemployment rate was 52.4 percent--the highest for any demographic group in the CPS survey.

Most of the unemployed (61 percent) were men, who as a group, had an unemployment rate of 14.3 percent. The rate for black males reached 19.3 percent, as compared to a lower 12.3 percent for black females. Married individuals registered the lowest rate (6.5 percent) while single people experienced the severest unemployment (66 percent of all the unemployed and a rate of 16.4 percent). The rate for heads of household measured 9.7 percent and for black female heads of households 11.3 percent, slightly below the overall city average.

The sample designed by the Bureau of Census for the CPS is not sufficient to measure employment at the ward level in the District. However, departmental economist estimated both the level and the rate of unemployment in each ward based on census share methodologies using the 1980 Census and 1983 annual labor force statistics.

Using this estimating technique the level of unemployment in 1983 appeared rather evenly defused across all wards (except Ward 3), ranging from a low of 4,200 in Ward 4 to a high of 5,900 in Ward 7. Five of the eight wards (Wards 1,5,6,7 and 8) showed unemployment rates higher than the District-wide average (11.7 percent).



STATISTICAL PROFILE OF WARD UNEMPLOYMENT DURING 1983* DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Area	Unemployed	Rate	Percent of Unemployed
City Wide	38,000	11.7%	100%
Ward 1	5,400	12.7%	14.3%
Ward 2	4,600	9.9%	12.2%
Ward 3	2,300	5.3%	6.0%
Ward 4	4,200	10.1%	11.1%
Ward 5	5,000	12.6%	13.2%
Ward 6	4,700	11.9%	12.4%
Ward 7	5,900	15.2%	15.5%
Ward 8	5,800	18.2%	15.3%

*Based on a distribution of City wide 1983 annual averages by 1980 Census data by ward.

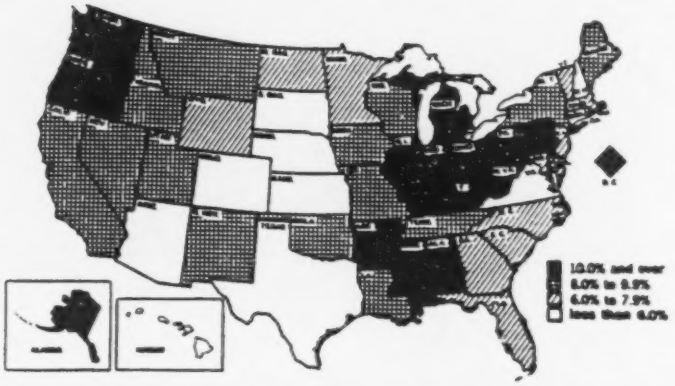
Source: Department of Employment Services; Office of Planning; Division of Labor Market Information and Research, April 1984.

Unemployment Rates in the States, Metropolitan Areas, and Selected Cities

In February 1984, the Bureau of Labor Statistics ranked 231 Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSAs) by preliminary unemployment rates. The

Washington Area, with a 4.8 percent unemployment rate, had the 31st lowest rate. Two major areas: Dallas - Forth Worth (3.6 percent); and Denver-Boulder (4.5 percent) had lower unemployment rates.

Unemployment Rates by State, February 1984



However, when the District proper (with a February preliminary unemployment rate of 12.0 percent) was ranked with the 50 states, it had the 5th highest unemployment rate exceeded only by West Virginia (16.5 percent), Alaska (13.1 percent); Alabama (12.8 percent), and Michigan (12.6 percent). New Hampshire with 5.3 percent had the lowest rate among the states. Only Alaska showed an increase when compared to February of the previous year.

Comparing the District with 23 selected central cities indicates that the District had the seventh highest unemployment rate in February 1984, at 12.0 percent. The average unemployment rate for all 23 cities was 8.9 percent. Gary, Indiana (24.6 percent) had the highest rate, while Dallas (3.9 percent) had the lowest. Each of these cities, experienced a lower unemployment rate than the same month a year ago, except for New York, where the rate was unchanged.

Unemployment in Selected Cities* February

City	February 1984	February 1983
1. Gary, Indiana	24.6	28.1
2. Birmingham, Alabama	14.1	19.6
3. Cleveland, Ohio	13.5	18.4
4. Dayton, Ohio	12.9	18.1
5. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania	12.2	13.3
6. St. Louis, Missouri	12.0	12.9
7. District of Columbia	12.0	12.8
8. Newark, New Jersey	11.4	15.4
9. Cincinnati, Ohio	10.4	14.7
10. Chicago, Illinois	9.5	12.9
11. Milwaukee, Wisconsin	9.3	15.7
12. New York, New York	9.2	9.2
13. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania	8.7	10.0

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14.	Atlanta, Georgia	8.7	9.6
15.	Los Angeles, California	8.4	12.8
16.	Columbus, Ohio	8.2	10.8
17.	Miami, Florida	8.1	12.6
18.	Baltimore, Maryland	8.1	11.4
19.	New Orleans, Louisiana	8.0	9.8
20.	Houston, Texas	7.1	10.6
21.	Boston, Massachusetts	7.0	8.9
22.	Dallas, Texas	3.9	6.8

*Preliminary unemployment rates.

Unemployment Insurance Benefit Activities

Slightly more than 12,400 persons received benefits amounting to $6.2 million from all regular unemployment compensation programs operating in the District of Columbia in March, 1984. The trend in benefit activity continues downward--2.1 percent fewer beneficiaries than last month, and 30.4 percent below March of 1983. Benefits were down 4.6 and 42.9 percent respectively for the same period. The same trend is seen in quarterly operations, when 17,800 persons received benefits during the first quarter of 1984--26.5 percent below the 24,300 level registered the first three months of 1983. Likewise, benefits this quarter ($19.7 million) were below the first quarter of last year (-31.6 precent), when $28.8 million were dispensed.

The State Program paid $5.4 million in benefits to 11,060 claimants in March, compared to $5.7 million to 11,300 persons in February. The March payment level was 44 percent below the $9.7 million paid to 16,040 claimants a year ago this month.

The Federal Program, unlike all the others, received more initial claims this month than last--22 percent above February. The general disparity ends at this point, however. Benefits, at $649,600, dropped 2.7 percent below last month and 32.6 percent below March of 1983. There were 1,150 persons receiving benefits in March, compared to 1,170 in February.

EMPLOYMENT

CES

A KEY MONTHLY INDICATOR OF CHANGES IN THE ECONOMY

SPECIAL INVITATION TO EMPLOYERS

Is your firm considered when mega-buck decisions are made by national and local governments or large corporations and financial institutions?

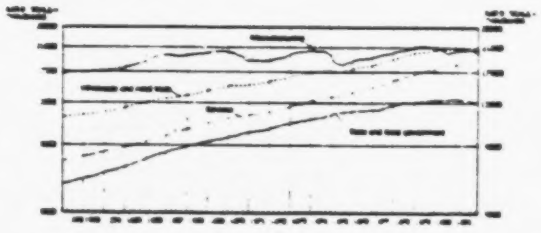
One of the most important national and local economic statistical series is employment by industry. These important data are used by a variety of government and private sector decision makers in allocating scarce financial resources. The employment data are derived from a special Bureau of Labor Statistics survey commonly called Current Employment Statistics (CES) or simply the 790 survey. The Department of Employment Services cooperates with the Bureau of Labor Statistics in collecting information from District firms, businesses and institutions.

Currently the Department is offering local employers an opportunity to participate. A Bureau study showed that on the average it required only 20 minutes a month to complete the survey. Thus only a very small amount time is required to assure your participation in this important economic series.

If you are interested in participation or would like more information simply call Elsie Taylor (639-1633).

Nonagricultural Payroll Employment by Industry

(Seasonally Adjusted)



The Ex-Servicepersons Program paid $112,300 to 218 veterans in March. As was the case for the other programs, the majority of the monthly activity was below last month and last year in the various segments.

The annual and quarterly downturn in activity, are primarily the result of changes in benefit provisions of the Unemployment Compensation Law. Effective March 15, 1983 the maximum duration of claims was reduced from 34 to 26 weeks, and more stringent qualifications were imposed for job related misconduct and refusal of

SELECTED UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFIT STATISTICS
(REGULAR PROGRAMS)
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
March 1984

	March 1984	February 1984	March 1983	% Change From February 1984	% Change From March 1983
STATE UI PROGRAM a/					
Initial Claims Taken	2,845	3,277	3,359	- 13.2	- 15.3
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	41,049	43,393	69,513	- 5.4	- 40.9
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	38,354	39,852	66,600	- 3.8	- 42.4
Total Benefits Paid	$5,423,559	$5,701,196	$9,686,881	- 4.9	- 44.0
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$141.41	$143.06	$144.33	- 1.2	- 2.0
Number of First Payments	1,858	2,219	2,600	- 16.3	- 28.5
Number of Final Payments	1,005	920	1,662	+ 9.2	- 39.5
Total Beneficiaries	11,057	11,296	16,043	- 2.1	- 31.1
Average Weeks of Duration d/	20.6	18.0	25.6	+ 14.4	- 19.5
FEDERAL PROGRAM b/					
Initial Claims Taken	200	164	236	+ 22.0	- 15.3
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	4,291	4,524	6,147	- 5.2	- 30.2
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	4,200	4,403	6,208	- 4.6	- 32.3
Total Benefits Paid	$694,619	$713,986	$1,030,286	- 2.7	- 32.6
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$165.39	$162.16	$165.96	+ 2.0	- 0.3
Number of First Payments	156	205	216	- 23.9	- 27.8
Number of Final Payments	92	79	162	+ 16.5	- 43.2
Total Beneficiaries	1,152	1,172	1,490	- 1.7	- 22.7
Average Weeks of Duration d/	26.9	27.5	28.7	+ 25.1	- 6.3
EX-SERVICEPERSONS PROGRAM c/					
Initial Claims Taken	67	84	74	- 20.2	- 9.5
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	1,066	1,066	1,660	0.0	- 35.8
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	727	732	1,279	- 0.7	- 43.2
Total Benefits Paid	$112,311	$114,267	$196,038	- 1.7	- 42.7
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$154.49	$156.10	$153.27	- 1.0	+ 0.8
Number of First Payments	59	57	58	+ 3.5	- 1.7
Number of Final Payments	1	1	5	0.0	- 80.0
Total Beneficiaries	218	229	313	- 4.8	- 30.4
Average Weeks of Duration d/	12.3	12.8	22.1	- 3.9	- 44.3
TOTAL--ALL PROGRAMS					
Initial Claims Taken	3,112	3,525	3,669	- 11.7	- 15.2
Weeks of Unemployment Claimed	46,406	48,983	77,320	- 5.3	- 40.0
Weeks of Unemployment Compensated	43,281	44,987	74,087	- 3.8	- 41.6
Total Benefits Paid	$6,230,489	$6,529,449	$10,913,205	- 4.6	- 42.9
Average Weekly Benefit Payment	$143.95	$145.14	$147.00	- 0.8	- 2.1
Number of First Payments	2,073	2,481	2,874	- 16.4	- 27.9
Number of Final Payments	1,098	1,000	1,829	+ 9.8	- 40.0
Total Beneficiaries	12,427	12,697	17,846	- 2.1	- 30.4
Average Weeks of Duration d/	20.9	18.1	25.8	+ 15.5	- 19.0

a/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Federal Employees (UCFE), and/or Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX)
b/ Includes joint claims with Unemployment Compensation for Ex-Servicepersons (UCX).
c/ No joint claims.
d/ Ratio of weeks compensated to first payments, month ended.

suitable work. These have resulted in fewer claimants, less weeks compensated, and less benefits paid in general. To a lesser degree, the stabilization of the economy may have produced fewer claimants.

Hours and Earnings in Manufacturing

Total Manufacturing Average Weekly Earnings in the Metropolitan Area for the month of March 1984 declined $6.03. Average Weekly Hours went down 0.8 of an hour. Average Hourly Earnings were up 5¢ an hour.

The largest increase occurred in Electric Machinery Equipment and Supplies. Weekly Earnings were up $6.83 as Weekly Hours dropped 0.1 of an hour. Hourly Earnings increased 18¢ an hour. The increase was due to a pay increase.

The most significant decrease took place in Stone, Clay, and Glass Products. Less business other than seasonal was the major cause, as Weekly Earnings were down $7.94. Average Weekly Hours dropped 2 hours. Hourly Earnings showed a drop of 23¢ an hour.

WASHINGTON, D.C. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX FOR ALL URBAN CONSUMER (CIP-U)

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Washington, D.C., Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area rose 0.5 percent to 305.1 (1967=100) during the 2 months ended in March. The CPI-U rose 5.5 percent during the 12 months ended in March 1984. The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was virtually unchanged from January to March, 1984. The March level of 308.2 was 4.6 percent higher than in March 1983.

The 0.5 percent increase in the CPI-U from January to March 1984 compares with

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EARNINGS OF PRODUCTION WORKERS IN MANUFACTURING
WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA
March 1984

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	March 1984	February 1984	March 1983	March 1984	February 1984	March 1983	March 1984	February 1984	March 1983
TOTAL MANUFACTURING	381.24	387.27	372.45	38.2	39.0	38.2	9.98	9.93	9.75
Durable Goods	342.36	345.17	317.52	41.7	42.3	40.5	8.21	8.16	7.84
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	312.78	338.25	307.94	39.0	41.0	36.4	11/8.02	12/8.25	1/8.46
Electric Machinery, Equipment & Supplies	372.77	365.94	338.19	42.7	42.8	41.7	2/8.73	8.55	1/2/ 8.11
Non-durable Goods	412.41	420.35	414.23	35.4	36.3	36.4	11.65	11.58	11.38
Food & Kindred Products	461.07	466.79	525.74	32.7	33.2	38.8	14.10	1/14.06	1/13.55
Printing & Publishing	434.35	441.41	416.80	36.5	37.0	35.9	11.90	3/11.93	11.61

Total Production Workers	March '84	February'84	March '83
	33,400	32,600	30,200

Note: Data reflects revision to 1983 Benchmark.

1/ Overtime at Premium Pay
2/ Pay Increase
3/ Less Overtime
4/ Change in Hourly Earnings due to shift Work With Pay Differential
11/ Less Business other than Seasonal
12/ Longer work week

an advance of 1.6 percent for the 2 months ended in January, 1984. A 1.5 percent increase in the food and beverage component accounted for more than half the rise in the overall CPI-U from January to March, 1984.

Grocery story food prices rose 2.0 percent in the 2 months ended in March 1984. Higher prices were recorded for most fruits and vegetables, beef, pork, and fish. On the other hand, poultry and egg prices declined, following sharp increases in December and January. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages -- rose 0.3 and 2.3 percent, respectively.

The housing index rose 0.2 precent. Shelter costs increased 0.5 percent with renters' costs and homeowners' costs advancing 0.4 and 0.7 percent, respectively. However, the increased costs for shelter were partially offset by lower costs for housefurnishings, electricity, and natural gas.

The index for apparel and upkeep rose 1.2 percent as higher prices for men's, boys' and girls' clothing, jewelry, and luggage were only partially offset by price decreases for footwear and women's apparel.

Entertainment costs rose 2.1 percent, reflecting higher costs for toys, hobbies, amd music equipment, and reading materials.

Among other categories of consumer spending, medical care costs dropped 0.6 percent. Transportation costs also declined as lower charges for motor fuel and automobile maintenance and repairs more than offset increases in used car prices.

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
(ALL URBAN CONSUMERS - CPI-U) 1/

Expenditure Category	March 1984	Percent Change Two Months Ago	Year Ago
ALL ITEMS.....	305.1	0.5	5.5
Food & Beverage.....	306.0	1.5	3.7
Housing.....	318.5	.2	5.8
Apparel & Upkeep.....	207.7	1.2	0.7
Transportation.....	299.4	- 0.1	6.5
Medical Care.....	393.6	- 0.6	6.9
Entertainment.....	238.4	2.1	8.4
Other Goods & Services.....	298.2	.0	6.3
Special Index:			
Energy 2/.....	190.1	- 0.4	4.6

Source: U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; Table Prepared by Department of Employment Services, Labor Market Information and Research Division

1/ 1967=100, except as noted.

2/ June 1978=100.

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11	Audit Clerks
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36	Programmers (All Types)
154	Computer Operators
1	Chemical Engineer
2	Civil Engineers
4	Electrical Engineers
6	Mechanical Engineers
4	Drafters, Civil
2	Drafters, Electrical
2	Drafters, Electronics
3	Drafters, Structural
10	Electronics Technicians
3	Mechanical-Engineering Technicians
3	Chemists
2	Chemical-Laboratory Technician
77	Lawyers
2	Genral Medical Practitioners
36	Medical Assistants
24	Dental Assistants
18	Medical Laboratory Technicians
5	X-Ray Technicians
18	Nurses
49	Licensed Practical Nurses
5	Pharmacists
3	Sociologists
65	Guidance Counselors
10	Social Group Workers
15	Caseworkers
29	College or University, Faculty Members
13	Technical Publications, Writers

Clerical and Sales Workers

460	Secretaries
1,186	Clerk-Typists
327	Stock Clerks
405	Cashiers

Craft Workers

79	Automobile Mechanics
15	Diesel Mechanics
4	Aircraft Mechanics
9	Bakers
125	Carpenters
4	Bricklayers
24	Pipefitters
27	Plumbers
5	Apprentice Plumbers
14	Carpet Layers
4	Machinists
10	Glaziers
42	Roofers
38	Sheet Metal Workers
84	Cement Masons
44	Electricians
145	Painters

Service Workers

112	Cooks
292	Kitchen Helpers
41	Security Guards

Laborers and Others

540	Construction Workers I
334	Construction Workers II
161	Building Maintenance Repairers
26	Electronics Assemblers

METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON, D.C.

AREA LABOR SUMMARY

The Area Labor Summary is published by the District of Columbia Department of Employment Services. The Summary is prepared by the Division of Labor Market Information and Research, Richard Groner, Director. The following staff members have contributed to the publication and the development of the data herein: Lawrence Thurston, James Tyrone Cooper, Rufus Daniels, Esther Harrell, Elsie Taylor, Eileen Dent and Nancy Anderson-Grant. Word Processing was performed by Joann Washington and Sheryl Ragland.

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- Resume Bank
- Labor Market Information

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- 25 percent of Second-Year Wages up to $1,500 credit per employee

Applicant Testing
- Typing and Shorthand
- Vocabulary and Spelling
- Aptitude
- Occupational

Directory of Services

Job Bank	724-3785
Employer Services Center	639-1601
Targeted Jobs Tax Credit	639-1318
Bonding Information	639-1318
Temporary Placement Service:	
7 a.m.—11 a.m.	673-4510
11 a.m.—5 p.m.	673-6995

Department of Employment Services
Government of the District of Columbia
Marion Barry, Jr., Mayor 1983

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